



The National Sporting Library & Museum

NEWSLETTER

A RESEARCH CENTER FOR HORSE AND FIELD SPORTS

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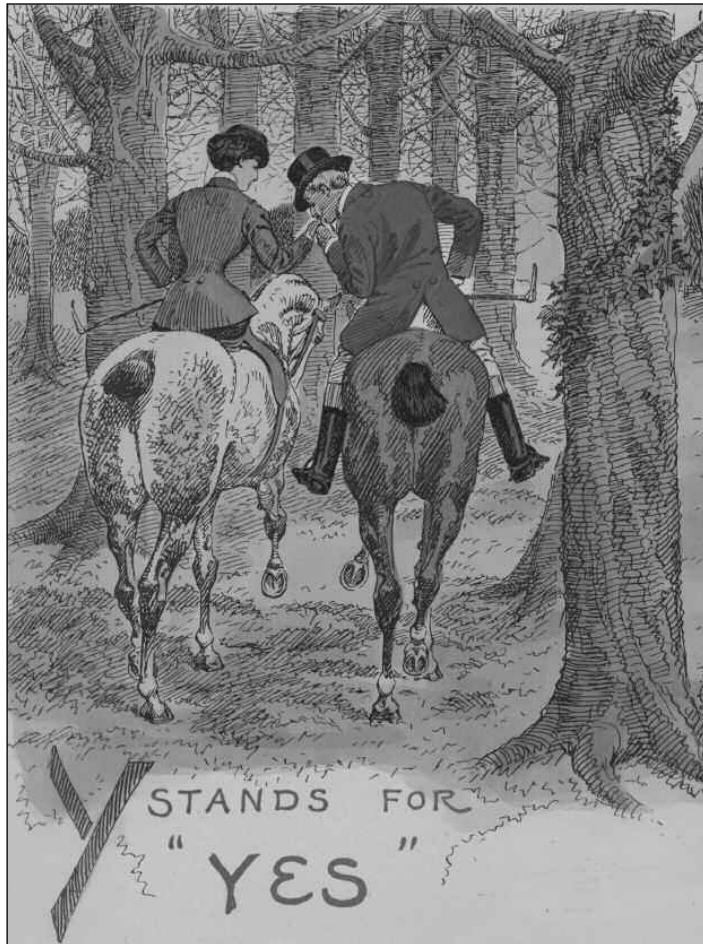
SUMMER 2010

Literary and Visual Art Donations Enhance the Collections

The National Sporting Library & Museum has cause for celebration when a rare book, manuscript or painting is donated! Gifts of books, manuscripts, art and film keep the collections updated and enriched, enabling the institution to meet the growing needs of visiting researchers and resident scholars in the John H. Daniels Fellowship Program. In addition to paintings by Franklin Brooke Voss, Sam Savitt, Henri Delattre and Charles Johnson Payne, as well as a Paul Brown poster, there have been many books and manuscripts added to the collection this past year.

In time for the opening of the current Library exhibit *Lives of Dogs*, Hector Alcalde, an NSL&M Board Member, gave a unique 19th-century manuscript this summer. *Mittheilungen aus Dem Umfange der Fahrkunde Herausgegeben* is a small folio of 88 pages, written in a neat and elegant cursive hand. This donation, along with recent 18th-century acquisitions on coaching, will serve the researcher who is interested in 18th and 19th-century coaching, training carriage horses and social customs.

British bookseller Justin Croft, Ph.D., writes in his description of the acquisition by Alcalde, "An Austrian equestrian manuscript on the management of carriages and their horses, [it] was written in 1820 by a senior lieutenant of the impe-



"She Said Yes" from *The Corbould Sporting Alphabet* by H. Corbould (c1901).

rial-royal army of Austria in Italy, who is identified by the initials 'L.P.' on the title page.... It is dedicated to Johann Freyherrn [Baron] von Frimont, the Austrian cavalry general and commander of the Order of Maria Theresa, who was at this time commander of the occupying Austrian armies in Italy. The author is likely to have been in his service.

"The volume contains detailed directions and comments on the different ways of harnessing, training and combining horses for different occasions and requirements.... The

author also comments on the importance of dispositional aptitude of animals intended for work as a team (there are at least three separate chapters on the temperament of horses and how it may be used to enhance the consonance in the combination of more than one animal), and the differences in international riding and harnessing styles (special emphasis is given to the French style, differentiating it from the current Austrian fashion). The work is almost certainly unpublished: we can find no similarly-titled printed work," stated Croft.

Timothy J. Greenan, NSL&M Board Member, donated three extremely rare dog books which are currently on display. These volumes will benefit the researcher studying the history and development of sporting breeds and dogs in general. The first is *Hunde-Gallerie oder Naturgetreue Darstellung des Hundes* (Dog Gallery, or Lifelike Representations of Dogs), published by Theodor Götz, in Weimar, Germany, 1838. The folio contains 32 hand-colored engraved plates of illustrations by artist Eduard Lobe depicting 43 different European dog breeds of the early 19th-century.

Greenan obtained the rare book from bookseller Richard Hooper, of Washington, D.C., who said, "It includes a wide range of sizes from Schossehunde, or lapdogs, including the Mopshund, or Pug, up to the

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Donations

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Mastiff and Neufundlandischer Hunt (the Newfoundland). Another of the larger dogs represented is the Bullenbeisser, or Bull Baiter. It is now extinct but its genes are a major component of the present day Boxer."

The Book of the Greyhound by Edward C. Ash (b. 1888) is a comprehensive overview of the greyhound as a coursing hound as well as the development of the breed. Ash traces the noble canine from its desert origins in ancient Egypt to its arrival in Britain and the royal court. Published in London, 1933, it is beautifully bound in tan pigskin with a gilt vignette of a greyhound on the cover and a color frontispiece by English painter Arthur Wardle (1864-1949). Accompanying this vol-

ume is *A Chart Showing the Relationship of Famous Greyhounds Over a Period of Nearly 200 Years* by Ash, published 1933, also donated by Greenan.

William M. Klimon, an active member of the Library Management and Book Acquisition Committee, has donated a number of sporting books and pamphlets that he has found at far-flung book shops and some he adroitly snared off eBay. The most delightful is *The Corbould Sporting Alphabet: 28 Hunting Pictures*, published in London, c1901. The oblong book is illustrated with foxhunting sketches and vignettes, and hand-colored drawings. Corbould designed it to be shared by children and adults alike. He deftly depicts the chase from the child's viewpoint, both mounted and afoot, as well as the adult's, complete with romance and mistakes during the chase.

This spring, sporting book publisher Nick Lyons, founder of The Lyons Press, donated eight fly-fishing and other field sport books. Lyons enjoyed a long career as a sporting book publisher from 1977 to 2001. He authored eighteen fly-fishing and sporting books and over four hundred essays. Among the gifts are *The Quotable Fisherman*, compiled and introduced by Lyons, 1998, and *The Orvis Guide to Beginning Fly Fishing*, by Tom Rosenbauer, preface by Nick Lyons, 2009.

Some real gems come to the Library as people downsize their homes and seek a good place for the collection of books they so carefully amassed. Kandee Haertel, of Galena, Illinois, recently shipped six boxes of her equestrian books to the NSL. Once an active endurance rider, she developed a collection containing many books on trail riding, including trail guides for equestrians.

Recent Book Donations

Hector Alcalde - An Austrian equestrian manuscript on the management of carriages and carriage horses, written in 1820 in Padua, Italy, by a senior lieutenant of the Imperial-Royal Army of Austria.

Jacqueline B. Mars - *A Gift from the Desert: The Art, History and Culture of the Arabian Horse* by Sandra L. Olsen and Cynthia Culbertson, 2010.

Nick Lyons - Six books published by Skyhorse Publishing, New York: *Inventing Montana*, by Ted Leeson, 2009; *Trout and Their Food: A Compact Guide for Fly Fishers*, by Dave Whitlock, preface by Nick Lyons, 2010; *Afield: American Writers on Bird Dogs*, edited by Robert DeMott and Dave Smith, 2010; *The Orvis Guide to Beginning Fly Fishing*, by Tom Rosenbauer, preface by Nick Lyons, 2009; *My Life Was This Big, and Other True Fishing Tales*, by Lefty Kreh with Chris Millard, introduction by Nick Lyons, 2008; *In That Sweet Country: Uncollected Writings of Harry Middleton*, selected and introduced by Ron Ellis, 2010.

William M. Klimon - *Blood Horses: Notes of a Sportswriter's Son* by John Jeremiah Sullivan, 2004; *Horses: The Visual Guide to over 100 Horses from Around the World* by Elwyn Hartley Edwards, 1993; *Dealing with Horses* by J.F. Kelly, 1961; *Dog Love* by Marjorie Garber, 1996; *Catalog of a Collection of Fine English Sporting Prints and a Few Original Paintings by Famous Artists*, introduction by Raymond Glendenning, 1947.

Norman Fine - *Foxhunting Adventures: Chasing the Story* by Norman Fine (2010).

Edith Overly - *Gallops* by David Gray, 1899, *The "ABC" of Riding to Hounds* by C.B.M., 1916, *Annals of the Warwickshire Hunt 1795-1895* by Sir Charles Mordaunt, 1896, *The Private Stable: Its Establishment, Management and Appointments* by "Jorrocks," 1899, *Hunts with Jorrocks from Robert Surtees'*, 1924, and *Foxhunting Recollections* by J. Stanley Reeve, 1928.

Mrs. Howard Buhl - *Shotgunning in the Lowlands* by Ray P. Hollan, 1945, with a slipcase; *Shotgunning the Uplands* by Ray P. Holland, 1944; *An Artist's Game Bag* by Lynn Bogue Hun, 1936, # 764 of 1,225; *Grouse Feather* by Burton L. Spiller, 1935, #657 of 950; and *Bishop's Wildfowl* by Richard E. Bishop, 1948.

Virginia Fout - Ten sporting books including *Woods and Waters and Some Asides* by Harry Hampton, 1979; *Auteuil Hier et Aujourd'hui* by Guy Thibault, 2003; *Wings from Cover: The Upland Images of Robert Abbott and Ed Gray*, Essays by Ed Gray, 1996.

Mrs. Lee Lynn - 20 equestrian books from the estate of her son H. Bailey Lynn.

Ladew Topiary Gardens - *The My Lady's Manor Races, 1909-2009* by Margaret Worrall, 2009.

National Steeplechase Assoc. - *American Steeplechasing 2009* (2010).

Skyhorse Publishing - *Afield: American Writers on Bird Dogs*, edited by Robert DeMott and Dave Smith, 2010.

William S. Morris III, August Futurity - 2009 *Augusta Futurity Yearbook*.

Jennifer Ashabrunner, of Alexandria, Virginia, recently contacted the Library with a collection from the estate of her late friend, Patricia Meadows, who frequented many lectures at the NSL over the years. Ashabrunner knew her friend would want her collection of equestrian books, videos, and DVDs to be used by generations to come. Many of the books are about Arabian horses, some of which are new to the Library's section on the breed.

Gifts of books, manuscripts, art, hunting diaries, film and DVDs are welcome. Potential donors are encouraged to first contact the National Sporting Library & Museum where they will be connected with the Librarian or the Art Curator.

In the case of books, the Librarian will review the material and that which is appropriate to the Library's Collection Development Policies will be accessioned. Material that is duplicated in the collection will be compared to find the best copy. The duplicate will be entered in the annual Duplicate Book Sale Catalog which is mailed to all NSL supporters in September. All proceeds from the sale go into the NSL Book Acquisition Fund to buy needed books and other research material for the use of our researchers and scholars.

—Lisa Campbell

Recent Book Acquisition Highlights

These books were purchased through the NSL Book Acquisition Fund, which is funded by contributions and proceeds from the NSL Duplicate Book Sale.

James Penn Boucaut, *The Arab: The Horse of the Future*, London: Gay and Bird, 1905.

Edward L. Anderson, *How to Ride and School a Horse*, London: W.H. Allen & Co., 1881; and *A System of School-Training for Horses*, London: W.H. Allen & Co., 1882.

J.T. Denny, *Horses and Roads, or, How to Keep a Horse Sound on His Legs*, London: Longmans, Green, 1880.

Robert Henderson, *The Barb and the Bridle, a handbook of equitation for ladies, and manual of instruction in the science of riding, from the preparatory suppling exercises on foot, to the form in which a lady should ride to hounds*, London: The "Queen" Office, 1874.

Robert W. Hughes, *Flyers: Virginia Race Horse*, Richmond, 1885-1887, a scrapbook of four lengthy newspaper articles by Hughes about Thoroughbreds and breeding, one published in the *Industrial South*, and three in the *Richmond Dispatch*.

Marie Isabelle, "Surafix Cavalier": *A new system of breaking-in & training horses*, London: Bosworth & Harrison, 1856.

Karl Kegel, *Mittheilungen aus dem Umfange der Pferdezucht, Pferdekenntnis, Reitkunst...*, Bamberg: Johann Friedrich Schmidt, 1820. (Basics of breeding, care and riding, with a subscriber list of aristocracy and military officers.)

J.B. von Sind, *De rim Felde und auf der Reise geschwind heilende Pferdearzt...*, Vienna: Trattner, 1782. (A veterinary cavalry officer writes about the care of horses while one rides cross-country.)

George Stephen, *The Adventures of a Gentleman in Search of a Horse*, Philadelphia: Carey, Lea & Blanchard, 1836.

Masters of Foxhounds Association Lecture and Book Signing

The evening of May 29, over 100 people attended the Library's book event for the Masters of Foxhounds Association's newly published book, *A Centennial View: Foxhunting in North America Today*, edited by John Strassburger. Speakers for the evening were Marvin Beeman, DVM, MFH of Arapahoe Hunt and Pres. of MFHA; C. Martin Wood III, Jt.-MFH of Live Oak Hounds; and Lt. Col. Dennis J. Foster (Ret.), MFHA Executive Director. The Library also opened a new exhibit *Lives of Dogs in Literature, Art and Ephemera*.



Contributing authors (seated l-r) Wes Sandness, Daphne Wood, C. Martin Wood III, Dr. Marvin Beeman, and Rene Latiolais sign copies of *A Centennial View* for book buyers.



Manuel H. and Mary Johnson, and John Zugschwert.

Photos courtesy of Noel Ryan



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National Sporting Library & Museum Staff News

The National Sporting Library & Museum has several changes to announce. Rick Stoutamyer has been appointed to the position of Chief Operating Officer. He has been Director of Administration since August 2009. Elizabeth Tobey, Ph.D., is now Director of Research and Publications. Two new staff members have been hired. Maureen (Mickey) Gustafson is the Director of Communications and Education and Hannah Reuter replaces Brenna Elliot as Curatorial Assistant.

Librarian Lisa Campbell attended a week-long class at Rare Book School, University of Virginia, in June. The class, "The Printed Book to 1800: Description and Analysis," was an introduction to the physical aspects of books from the hand-press period and covered the identification and description of paper, typography, letterpress printing, illustration processes, binding materials and styles, and the use of physical evidence in bibliographical analysis. The course was taught by David Whitesell, who is Curator of Books at the American Antiquarian Society, before which he was rare book cataloger at the Houghton Library, Harvard University.

Introducing New Staff Members

Maureen Gustafson, Director of Communications and Education

Maureen (Mickey) Gustafson, a Middleburg resident, is a visual arts administrator, independent curator and historic preservationist. She is the new Director of Communications and Education. Mickey recently served as the administrator of ArtTable, Washington, D.C., Chapter, a national organization for professional women in the visual arts and is the former director of the Rockford College Art Gallery, Rockford, Illinois. She worked with Lisa Campbell and Brenna Elliott to curate the popular *Lives of Dogs* exhibit in the Forrest E. Mars, Sr., Exhibit Hall. Mickey has extensive experience in the non-profit world. She is an Advisor Emeritus to the National Trust for Historic Preservation and is the former chair of the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council. She is a collector of vintage photography.



Maureen (Mickey) Gustafson

Hannah Reuter, Curatorial Assistant

Hannah Reuter is the new Curatorial Assistant. She recently graduated from the College of Charleston with a Bachelor of Arts in Arts Management. In South Carolina she worked for the Southeastern Wildlife Exposition as well as a fine art gallery, the Charleston Renaissance Gallery. A Middleburg native, Hannah's experiences in the sporting world have been augmented throughout her life with the art that depicts its culture. She is thrilled to be a part of the National Sporting Library & Museum and looks forward to the opening of its new building.



Hannah Reuter

Lives of Dogs Continues to Play

The Library's Forrest E. Mars, Sr., Exhibit Hall has hosted the popular *Lives of Dogs in Literature, Art and Ephemera*, since May 27. Curated by Maureen Gustafson, Lisa Campbell and Brenna Elliott, the popular show has become a destination for visitors beyond the region. Doriane Rumel and her son, Alden, from Lexington, Massachusetts, included the exhibit in their plans for a July trip to historic Virginia. Kathryn (Kit) Feldman, the author of an upcoming book, *Lick Your Plate! Celebrity Chefs Cook for their Dogs & Yours*, Bowtie Press, to be published fall 2010, visited the library to do research and see the exhibit *Lives of Dogs*. Garrett Faulkner, Features Editor of *The Georgetowner*, reviewed *Lives of Dogs* in the August 11 issue, commenting, "The exhibit serves to remind us of the animal that touches and shapes our lives, sometimes as much as people do." The exhibit will continue to be on view through December 11.

2009 National Sporting Library Annual Report of Donors

Chairman's Letter

The year 2009 proved to be historic for the National Sporting Library as an institution in terms of growth and expansion. It is with profound gratitude that we thank our donors for their generosity which made this growth possible. Despite the economic downturn, the Library has been able to maintain the number and quality of its program objectives. By the end of 2009, \$6.3 million was pledged for the National Sporting Art Museum and funding commitments are still coming in.

In September, the Board of Directors broke ground and construction began the transformation of the 1804 Vine Hill mansion on the NSL campus from use as rental office space to a magnificent Museum of Sporting Art. With a beautifully designed addition, the future Museum will host rotating exhibits in eleven galleries in a 13,000 square-foot modern facility. Grunley Construction is expecting to complete their work in December of this year. Board member and guest curator, F. Turner Reuter, Jr., is organizing the inaugural exhibit, "Afield in America: 400 Years of Animal & Sporting Art, 1585-1985," slated to open fall 2011.

Reuter's book, *Animal and Sporting Artists in America*, published by the NSL has been an enormous success and an important source of funding for the Library. The standard edition sold out with just a few copies remaining of the deluxe edition.

The Library's rare book collection continues to grow with the acquisition of works published from the 16th through the 19th century. Books are purchased with monies from the Book Acquisition Fund which is supported from the proceeds of the annual Duplicate Book Sale. In 2009, \$14,700 was raised.

Fly-fishing and river conservation were the topics of the NSL's second annual symposium. The day-long event was a huge success in terms of public awareness of the Library's angling collections with an outstanding panel of nationally recognized speakers. The John H. Daniels Fellowship Program continues to attract top academic and journalistic scholars in the realm of horse and field sports. Forty-two applications were received from five countries, and eight fellowships were awarded.

Exhibitions of books, ephemera, and art continue in the Forrest E. Mars, Sr., Exhibit Hall. "F. Ambrose Clark Rare Book Room Afternoon Delights" opened in the fall which received good publicity and attendance.

We are proud and excited about the immediate and long-term future of the institution. The new Sporting Art Museum will further enhance the experience for both visitors and scholars, while the depth of literature continues to expand and attract the brightest minds to delve in the stacks.

The Board of Directors thanks each and every loyal and new donor for their generous philanthropy.

Sincerely,

Manuel H. Johnson
Chairman of the Board

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**Hunting with
 Bath County
 Hounds**

Mrs. George L. Ohrstrom, Jr.,
 MFH, invites Ivy Circle and
 Chairman's Council donors to
 hunt with the Bath County
 Hounds this fall. Legendary
 huntsman, Melvin Poe, will lead
 the pack from Fassifern Farm as
 they hunt the territory outside
 Warm Springs, Virginia. This is
 Poe's last season and just four
 hunts are planned. For information
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 contact John Coles at 540-687-
 6500, ext 17.

Leap of Faith: Fellow Elizabeth Letts Tells the Incredible Story of Snowman

In writing about champion show jumper, Snowman, Elizabeth Letts is realizing a childhood dream. Like many girls, Letts had a childhood obsession for horse stories. One of her favorite books - which she checked out of the library countless times - was Rutherford Montgomery's, *Snowman*. Letts also recalls a photograph in which Snowman appeared to leap over another horse.

Snowman's remarkable story, however improbable, was completely real. Snowman's owner/trainer, Harry de Leyer, started riding his father's brewery horses as a child in the Netherlands. Following the Second World War, de Leyer emigrated to the U.S. where he befriended horseman and instructor Captain Vladimir Littauer (whose collections and papers reside at the NSL), who helped him earn his instructor's certificate.

The Knox School on Long Island hired de Leyer to head its riding program. In February 1956, de Leyer purchased Snowman for \$80 at a Pennsylvania horse auction after the fleabitten gray draft-cross gelding had failed to sell and had been loaded onto a truck bound for the slaughterhouse. Returning to Long Island, de Leyer later noticed from Snowman's numerous escapes over the pasture fence that the big gray horse could jump. De Leyer schooled Snowman, helping him overcome his initial clumsiness to become a champion show jumper. Snowman's greatest triumph came in 1958 when he won the Jumper Championship Class with de Leyer on his back at New York's Madison Square Garden. Nicknamed "The Cinderella Horse," Snowman became a celebrity, appearing on the Johnny Carson Show and in numerous magazines before his death from old age in 1974.

Letts is under contract with Ballantine Books to publish Snowman's story, tentatively titled *The Eighty-Dollar Champion*. Montgomery conflated many of the events in Snowman's career for the sake of brevity, but Letts has chosen to carefully record the horse's career between the years 1956 and 1960. The decade of the 1950's was a pivotal period in the history of horse shows in the United States, and Letts hopes to put Snowman's story within this context. Prior to the Second World War, horse shows were mainly training



Daniels Fellow Elizabeth Letts

exercises for the U.S. cavalrymen or private events in which only the wealthy participated. But after the war, Letts explains, the nation saw a "democratization" of horse sports. The army's disbanding of the cavalry after the war and the mechanization of farming resulted in the availability of more horses for pleasure riding. Riding academies sprung up in urban and suburban areas, offering affordable lessons to members of a growing middle class. The show arena became a place where anyone could compete at the highest levels, even a recent immigrant with an inexpensive, unpedigreed horse.

Letts spent July at the NSL as a Daniels Fellow. She reports that *The Chronicle of the Horse* aided her in

tracking horse show results. *The Horse*, a general-interest equestrian magazine, also provided her with historical information about horsemanship in the 1950's. Newspaper clippings in the Margaret L. Smith scrapbook in the NSL's archives documented highlights of the show circuit of Snowman's day.

Raised in Rolling Hills, California, Letts became interested in creative writing while an undergraduate at Yale University. Following a stint in the Peace Corps in Morocco, where she met her husband Ali Alalou, Letts enrolled in a nursing program at Yale. Her career as a nurse midwife provided inspiration for her first two books, the novels *Quality of Care* (2005) and *Family Planning* (2006). Letts and Alalou also co-wrote a children's book, *The Butter Man* (2008) set in Morocco. They and their four children live in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania, an area renowned for its horse farms.

The Eighty-Dollar Champion will be released in summer 2011. On Friday, August 27 at 2 p.m., Elizabeth Letts and Harry de Leyer presented a public Roundtable discussion on Snowman.

—Elizabeth Tobey

NSL Seeks Fellowship Applicants for 2011-2012

The next deadline for John H. Daniels Fellowship applications will be February 1, 2011. Established in 2007 in memory of John H. Daniels, the fellowship provides stipends and complimentary housing for researchers using the Library's collections. The Library welcomes applications from university professors, graduate students and post-docs, museum and library professionals, journalists, and independent writers working in a wide variety of disciplines, including history, art history, comparative literature, equine studies, geography, and area studies.

Visit the website www.nsl.org for more information or contact Elizabeth Tobey, Director of Research & Publications, at 540-687-6542 x 11 or etobey@nsl.org.

Lives of Dogs: Origins & Evolution of Hunting & Sporting Breeds A One-Day Symposium



Sat., October 23, 9-5

Lectures by an international panel of experts cover the historical evolution of the dog, including domestication, hunting in the classical world and medieval Europe, English and American foxhounds, and dogs in Victorian England.

Pre-registration & fee required.
Call 540-687-6542 x 11 or visit
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Middleburg and its Strategic Role in the Gettysburg Campaign of the Civil War

On June 19, 1863, the town of Middleburg, Virginia was awash in Blue & Gray as Union and Confederate cavalry troops fought in the streets and surrounding countryside. On June 19, 2010, Middleburg was besieged again as 110 horse and history aficionados crowded into the Founders' Room at the National Sporting Library to hear presentations by historians Clark "Bud" Hall and Childs Burden. The lectures focused on the cavalry battles of Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville, June 10-27, 1863, and the strategic role they played as a prelude to the battle of Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863.

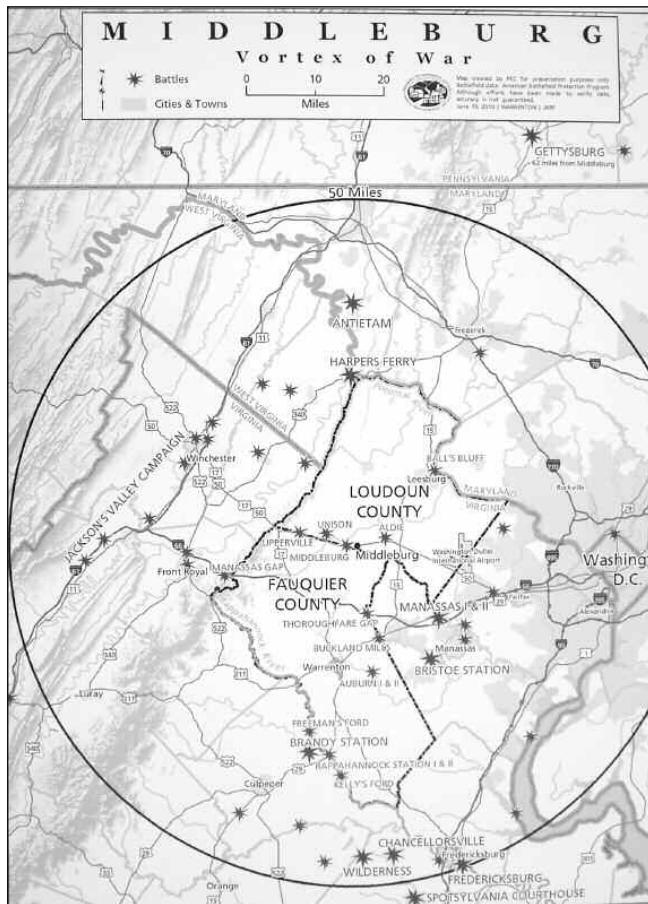
Childs Burden, President of the Mosby Heritage Area Association and long-time preservationist, opened by highlighting the efforts of non-profit organizations, including the National Sporting Library & Museum, that "work together as partners for the promotion of open space" by protecting historic landscape that makes the continuation of equine field sports possible. "In Loudoun and Fauquier Counties alone, we have over 92,000 acres in protective easement and our home has earned a unique sense of place where fox hunting and polo go hand in hand with the preservation of hallowed ground," he said.

The National Sporting Library is on land once known as Vine Hill and Burden discussed two monuments located on the Library's property: the newly installed Virginia Civil War Trails sign which describes the desperate struggle on Vine Hill June 17, 1863, between troops from Rhode Island and North Carolina, and the Tessa Pullan sculpture, *The Civil War Horse*, an iconic symbol at the Library, commissioned by Paul Mellon.

Burden relayed how Robert O'Neill's 1993 authoritative account of the Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville battles influenced Paul Mellon who chose to honor the valiant cavalry horse by initiating research and commissioning a sculpture. The result is Pullan's exhausted cavalry horse carrying an empty scabbard symbolizing the loss of his rider. The base of the monument

reads: "In memory of the 1.5 million horses and mules that were killed, wounded or died of disease in the Confederate and Union armies in the Civil War." Burden recounted recent research, now available in the Library, which estimates even higher losses.

"Bud" Hall came to the podium with



a unique map created by the Piedmont Environmental Council specifically for the NSL lecture. Titled "Middleburg: Vortex of War," the map shows the locations of all Civil War engagements within a fifty mile radius of Middleburg. Hall began his lecture with a definition of vortex as "a whirl of activity from which it is hard to escape," and he asked the audience to "hold that thought...."

Putting faces with names in history books, Hall displayed old photographs of key participants in the battles around Middleburg. He then discussed Middleburg's geographic proximity to Ashby's Gap in the Blue Ridge Mountains and why it was significant to the Gettysburg campaign, explaining

that Confederate General Robert E. Lee's victory at Chancellorsville, Virginia, in May 1863, led to Lee's plan to invade the Union a second time in an effort to end the war by covertly moving his infantry north through the Shenandoah Valley. Lee instructed Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart's cavalry to screen Lee's infantry movements until those troops were north of the Potomac River. The screening led to the largest cavalry battle of the Civil War on June 9, 1863, at Brandy Station in Culpeper County, Virginia, while Lee's foot soldiers continued moving north without being detected by Union General Joseph Hooker.

Hall then discussed the two weeks in June 1863, and, especially, June 17-21, when Union and Confederate cavalry clashed in and around Middleburg. He provided detailed descriptions of the attacks during this period, including the fighting on Vine Hill. During this critical week, Stuart's Confederate cavalry successfully kept Alfred Pleasonton's Union cavalry from learning that the main body of Lee's army was crossing Ashby's Gap, ten miles west of Middleburg, to descend into the Shenandoah Valley and hide behind the Blue Ridge Mountains as they marched north. General Lee would not be seen again until July 1, 1863, in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and historians designate the battles fought around Middleburg as the prelude to Gettysburg.

Hall noted that "one believes Confederate troopers would approve of the fact that the horse saved Middleburg when foxhunting and horse eventing resuscitated the town in the early 1900s - even though mostly New Englanders and New Yorkers moving down here made it happen as they helped local citizens create the nation's horse and hunt capital." And he closed with the idea that "vortex" still applies to the town: "Middleburg is a whirl of activity from which it is hard to escape!"

Clark "Bud" Hall's notes and the Middleburg map are available at the NSL. For the record, the definition of vortex also describes a "Bud" Hall lecture. If you haven't attended one, you need to.

—Rick Stoutamyer

Treasures from the Rare Book Room with Michael F. Suarez

On May 23, Jacqueline B. Mars hosted a dinner and lecture for members of the Ivy Circle and the Chairman's Council. Michael F. Suarez, S.J., spoke on "Patronage, Community and the Duties of Nobility: Five Great Books on Hunting and Horsemanship 1578-1776." The lecture was based on five rare books (which guests had the privilege of viewing), that are part of the National Sporting Library's collection from the F. Ambrose Clark Rare Book Room. At the commencement of the talk, Suarez, a renowned and gifted scholar, noted with great enthusiasm that this Library's collections are highly significant.

Michael Suarez, S.J., is a Professor of English, Honorary Curator of Special Collections and Director of the Rare Book School at the University of Virginia. A Jesuit priest, Professor Suarez holds four master's degrees as well as a doctorate from Oxford. He recently served as co-editor of *The Oxford Companion to the Book* (2010), the first reference work of its kind on the history of books and manuscripts from the invention of writing to the present day. The *Wall Street Journal* praised the two volume work as "a monument

to mankind's most effective means of communication."

Suarez opened with *Le Maneige Royal* by Monsieur Antoine de Pluvinel (1623). Pluvinel composed the book in the form of an instructive conversation between King Louis XIII and himself. After spending six years at Pignatelli's Neapolitan Riding Academy, Pluvinel

founded an academy in Paris where young French noblemen were instructed in riding, mathematics, music, literature, poetry and painting. The theme of the lecture, which applied not only to Pluvinel, was that "horsemanship was not simply about learning to ride, it was to foster virtue, loyalty, learning, rectitude, deportment, morality and stewardship," said Suarez.

Another highlight of the lecture was an Italian book, *La Venaria Reale: Palazzo di piacere, et di caccia, ideato dall'Altezza reale di carlo Emanuel II* by Amedeo di Castellamonte (1674). The exquisite leather bound book, which reflects the splendor of the hunt, was given as a memento to the guests of a hunting party hosted by the Duke and Duchess of Savoy. Of particular note are the large folded engravings, one of the entire estate and two scenes after the hunt for stag. Women guests are illustrated in elaborate ball gowns as they ride to hounds. Others in the hunting party are depicted as mythological figures including Diana, goddess of the hunt. Underlying themes of nobility, hierarchy, community and order are present in the elaborate "party favor" given by the Duke and Duchess.

The lecture also included one book written in English by William Cavendish, Duke of Newcastle. *A General System of Horsemanship in all its Branches* (1667), was produced by Cavendish while in exile in France from the Cromwellian regime. With the intention of superseding Pluvinel,

Photo courtesy of Rare Book School



Michael Suarez, S.J., Director of Rare Book School, Professor of English, University of Virginia.



The Duke and Duchess of Savoy who commissioned *La Venaria Reale*, 1674, as a gift to the guests of their 1672 hunting party on their estate near Turin, Italy.

Newcastle constructed a theory of horsemanship in which gaining the horse's respect through strong, but moderated authority (not brute force), established the rider's natural leadership through skill and perception. As Suarez noted, if a young monarch can learn to ride and train his horse, he can learn to lead his kingdom.

Upon the conclusion of the lecture, Suarez turned to French essayist and philosopher Michel de Montaigne. In Montaigne's notable book of essays, there is a chapter titled "On War Horses." Montaigne reveals, "I am never so happy as when I am in the saddle because whether well or ill, there is no place in the world where I am so much at home." The selection of Montaigne spoke to the timeless and enduring elements of horsemanship which have inspired, ennobled and edified mankind for centuries.

—Georgia Shallcross

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